

---

Subject: Re: GIF/TIFF-LZW in 5.5 (sorta) (was: Insight...)  
Posted by [George N. White III](#) on Sat, 13 Oct 2001 14:03:02 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Fri, 12 Oct 2001, Pavel A. Romashkin wrote:

> Dick Jackson wrote:  
>> Seems like a lot of hoops, has anyone actually written to Unisys  
>> for such a license? Do they charge for it?  
>  
> If they didn't charge for it, what kind of sense would it make to patent  
> it in the first place?

Large companies can trade access to patent portfolios, which then helps keep down upstart competitors who haven't anything to trade. To do this you need a useful portfolio of patents.

--

George N. White III <gnw3@acm.org> Bedford Institute of Oceanography

---